

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 13-19 and insert the following new claims:

---20. (new) A recombinant retroviral vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity.

21. (new) A recombinant adeno-associated viral vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity.

22. (new) A recombinant herpes simplex viral vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity.

23. (new) The recombinant viral vector of claim 20, 21 or 22 wherein the inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  is an interleukin-1 receptor antagonist protein.

24. (new) The recombinant vector of claim 20, wherein the vector is a lentivirus vector.

25. (new) A recombinant viral vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity wherein the inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  is a NF- $\kappa$ B inhibitor.

26. (new) A recombinant viral vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity wherein the inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  is an insulin like growth factor-1 protein.

27. (new) A recombinant E1 and E3 deleted adenoviral vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity.

28. (new) A recombinant adenoviral vector consisting essentially of adenoviral terminal repeats required for adenovirus replication and a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity.

29. (new) A recombinant adenoviral vector comprising a modified adenovirus E2 and E4 region and a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity.

30. (new) A recombinant adenoviral vector comprising a modified adenovirus E3 region and a nucleic acid molecule encoding an inhibitor of IL-1  $\beta$  activity.---

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and Claims 13-17 are rejected 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Claims 13-19 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 20-30. Support for the subject matter encompassed by the new claims can be found on page 20, line 1 through page 22, line 9 of the specification. No new matter is added. For reasons set forth in detail below, Applicants requests that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims allowed to issue.